



United Egg Producers

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Official U.S. Council Representative

July 23, 2007

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of U.S. egg producers, **please vote in favor of H.R. 2419, the 2007 farm bill, as passed by the House Agriculture Committee. Please vote against any hostile animal-rights amendments that would substitute emotion for sound science.**

The egg industry appreciates the hard work of Chairman Peterson, Ranking Member Goodlatte and their colleagues on this farm bill. The legislation contains several provisions that will benefit egg producers. For example, H.R. 2419 supports USDA's payment of **100% indemnities for low-pathogenic avian influenza**, endorsing a critical element of the nation's animal health policy. This farm bill will also place new emphasis on improving **air quality** through the EQIP program, providing new resources to enhance stewardship of natural resources. And although the farm bill is not the focus of energy policy, this bill has initiatives to encourage **cellulosic ethanol production**, hastening the day that biofuels from biomass will be commercially feasible.

When the House debates H.R. 2419, we ask you to consider that the egg industry has adopted scientific standards for animal care which were developed by an independent, unpaid committee of scientific experts. These standards are incorporated in the UEP Certified Program and have been adopted voluntarily by 85% of our industry.

We oppose any amendments that would impose unscientific, emotion-based restrictions on the egg industry or other segments of U.S. animal agriculture. Such amendments could include limits on federal procurement or other measures that would eliminate consumer choices. The impact of such restrictions would be felt not only by U.S. producers, but also by low-income consumers whose food costs would rise by billions of dollars. **Please vote against any such amendments.** Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Gene Gregory, President

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